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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/089,297	03/29/2002	Hideki Ikarashi	50070-075	9350

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WASHINGTON, DC 20005-3096

EXAMINER

ZEADE, BERTRAND

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2875

DATE MAILED: 10/21/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/089,297

Applicant(s)

IKARASHI ET AL.

Examiner

Bertrand Zeade

Art Unit

2875

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 May 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

Art Unit: 2875

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-6 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Matumoto(U.S.6302551).

Matumoto('551) discloses a meter for vehicle having:

Regarding claim 1, a pointer (24) adapted to be turned around a rotary shaft (23), a display member (60) positioned on a rear side of the pointer (24) and adapted to be transmission illuminated, light sources (81,82,83) positioned on a rear side of the display member (60) and in the vicinity of the rotary shaft (23) and adapted to illuminate the display member (60), a reflector (24c) positioned on the rear side of the display

Art Unit: 2875

member (60) and provided with a reflecting portion (24b), and a light guide member (60a) positioned on the rear side of the display member and adapted to guide the light from the light sources (81,28,83) to the rear side of the display member, characterized in that a hollow portion is formed between a rear surface of the display member (20) and reflector (24c), an irradiation portion (183) adapted to apply the light (82/83), which is reflected on the reflecting portion (24c) and illuminates the display member, to the interior of the hollow portion being provided on the light guide member (60a).

Regarding claim 2, a pointer (24) adapted to be rotated around a rotary shaft (23), a display member (60) positioned on a rear side of the pointer (24) and provided with a portion to be transmission illuminated, first light sources (81) positioned on the rear side of the pointer (24) and adapted to illuminate the pointer (24), second light sources (82) positioned on a rear side of the display member and adapted to illuminate the portion to be transmission illuminated, a first light guide member (60A) adapted to guide the light from the first light sources (81,83) to the pointer (24), and a second light guide member (81,83) positioned on the rear side of the display member and adapted to guide the light from the second light sources (81,83) to the rear side of the display member, characterized in that the first light guide member (60A) and second light guide member (60) are formed in one body.

Art Unit: 2875

Regarding claim 3, a pointer (24) adapted to be turned around a rotary shaft (23), a display member (60) positioned on a rear side of the pointer (24) and provided with a portion to be transmission illuminated, first light sources (81,82) positioned on the rear side of the pointer (24) and adapted to illuminate the pointer (24), second light sources (81,83) positioned on a rear side of the display member and adapted to illuminate the portion to be transmission illuminated, a first light guide member (60A) adapted to guide the light from the first light sources (81,82) to the pointer (24), a second light guide member (60) positioned on the rear side of the display member and adapted to guide the light from the second light sources (81,83) to the rear side of the display member, and a reflector (24c) positioned on the rear side of the display member and provided with a reflecting portion (24b), characterized in that a hollow portion is formed between a rear surface of the display member and reflector (24c), an irradiation portion (183) adapted to apply the light, which is reflected on the reflecting portion (24b) and illuminates the display member, to the interior of the hollow portion being provided on the light guide members (60A,60), the first light guide member (60A) and second light guide member (60) being formed in one body.

Regarding claim 4, the first light guide member (60A) and second light guide member (60) are separated by a partition, a joint portion for connecting the first and second light guide members together being provided in a position opposed to the region

Art Unit: 2875

of a dial (10) which is not provided with a portion to be transmission illuminated of the display member (see figs. 2,10).

Regarding claim 5, the reflecting portion (24c) has a curved cross-sectional shape (see figs. 2,10).

Regarding 6, the reflecting portion (24c) has a cross-sectional shape obtained by forming a plurality of flat surfaces continuously at various angles (see figs. 2,10).

Art Unit: 2875

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Bertrand Zeade whose telephone number is 703-308-6084. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 AM-5:00PM.

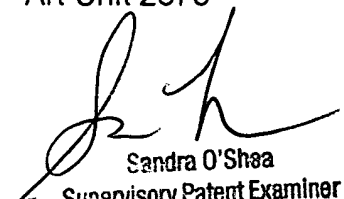
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sandra O'Shea can be reached on 703-305-4939. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0956.

Bertrand Zeade

Examiner

Art Unit 2875


Sandra O'Shea
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Technology Center 2800